

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-21. (canceled)

22. (new) A block made of solid wood or pressboard for the construction of a solid wall by staggered stacking, the block comprising:

an upper face and a lower face and two opposite ends;

a pair of flanges on the upper face and a pair of grooves on the lower face for the assembly of the block by tongue and groove joint, a longitudinal axis of the flanges on the upper face and a longitudinal axis of the grooves on the lower face facing each other two by two on the same vertical axis;

a splined tongue and groove joint at each of the two ends, parallel to the wall facings and perpendicular to the upper and lower faces, for a symmetrical assembly at the two ends of the block; and

at each splined tongue and groove joint, a group of two countersunk holes perpendicular to the upper face, passing through the block up to the lower face and located on an axis that is parallel to the flanges and between the latter, in the same longitudinal axis as the splined tongue and groove joints.

23. (new) The block according to claim 22 having a rectangular parallelepiped shape with a height up to 20 centimeters.

24. (new) The block according to claim 23 having a length up to 60 centimeters and a ratio of the length to the width not exceeding one third.

25. (new) The block according to claim 23 wherein the flanges and grooves present a profile in a semicircle whose cumulative length of chords or diameters per face does not exceed one third of the width of the block.

26. (new) The block according to claim 25 comprising a bevelled edge profiled on the upper edge of the block and subtracted from the width of the block.

27. (new) The block according to claim 25 wherein the diameter or the chord of the groove is ten percent larger than the diameter of the flange.

28. (new) The block according to claim 25 wherein the distance between the outside edge of the groove and adjacent wall

facing is not less than one-tenth of the width calculated on the upper face of the block.

29. (new) The block according to claim 24 comprising more than one splined tongue and groove joint at each of the ends, a scraped area that is caused by the grooves of the splined tongue and groove joints not exceeding one third of the surface area of the square section of the block.

30. (new) The block according to claim 29 wherein the depth of the grooves does not exceed the distance between the wall facing and first line of the grooves.

31. (new) The block according to claim 22 comprising, for each group of two holes and from a leveling course, a distance that is equal to a half-width of the block for one of the holes, and a distance that is equal to three-quarters of the length of the block for the other hole.

32. (new) The block according to claim 22 comprising two groups of two holes located symmetrically at the two ends of the block.

33. (new) The block according to claim 22 wherein the diameter of the holes does not exceed the side of the width of

the groove of the splined tongue and groove joints and allowing passage of screw or metal tips of equal diameter.

34. (new) The block according to claim 22 comprising means for screwing or nailing into the block at a depth that is equal to at least one third of the thickness of the block.

35. (new) The block according to claim 22 together with another said block, wherein the splines of the splined tongue and groove joints have dimensions in length, thickness and width that are five percent lower than the grooves of the two blocks placed end to end.

36. (new) The block according to claim 22 together with another said block, wherein only one portion of the flanges is ground on a portion covered by the assembly of the two blocks when joined at a right angle and with clamping.

37. (new) The block according to claim 26 wherein the diameter or the chord of the groove is ten percent larger than the diameter of the flange.

38. (new) The block according to claim 26 wherein the distance between the outside edge of the groove and adjacent wall

facing is not less than one-tenth of the width calculated on the upper face of the block.